THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) Two schemes of Hostels for Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes are under implementation. Under the Scheme of Construction of Boys' Hostels/Girls' hostels, the Central Govt. provides financial assistance to the extent of 50% of the cost of construction, to the State Govt. Under this Scheme, Karnataka has been funded as follows:

Year	Number of Scheduled Caste Hostels funded	Number of Scheduled Tribe Hostels funded
2000-01	41	5
2001-02	37	9
2002-03	57	Nil

Under the Scheme of Grants in aid to NGOs, funds are provided for the running of hostels. The number of hostels that have been funded in Karnataka through NGOs is as under:-

Year	Number of Scheduled Caste Hostels funded	Number of Scheduled Tribe Hostels funded
2000-01	Nil	1
2001-02	Nil	1
2002-03	Nil	1

(b) There is no application pending as on date except the proposal of the State Govt. of Karnataka for construction of eight Boys' Hostels and one Girls' Hostel for Scheduled Tribes which could not be approved pending receipt of utilization certificate for the previous grants.

(d) No, Sir.

Inclusion of Koch Rajbonshis under ST category

2591. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Government's stand tc bring Koch Rajbonshis of Assam under

scheduled tribes category, after receiving green signal from the Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(b) By when Government will bring the Constitutional Amendment Bill to declare Koch Rajbonshis as scheduled tribes?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) and (b) As per the procedure approved for deciding claims for inclusion, exclusion and other modifications in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Koch Rajbonshi community of Assam has not yet become eligible for inclusion in the list of Scheduled Tribes. No specific time scheduled can be indicated at this stage, as the matter involves consultations with the conerned State Government, the Registrar General of India and the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Grants for welfare of tribals in Himachal Pradesh

2592. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) The quantum of grants allocated for the welfare of tribals in far-flung areas of Himachal Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise and sector-wise;

(b) the amount utilized so far;

(c) whether any enquiry had been conducted for misuse of funds in Himachal Pradesh; and

(d) the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs allocates funds, state-wise, for tribal development in the country under two schemes *viz.* i) Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution and ii) Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan (SCA to TSP). The quantum of grants released to the Govt. of Himachal Pradesh and expenditure reported by the State Govt. for these programmes are show in the Statement (*See* below).